

# SENATOR PLATT DISCLOSES

# LEGISLATIVE SECRETS

The Three Big Insurance Companies Contributed to State Campaigns, and He Admits It Was for "Influence" at Albany.

COLLECTED FOR DEPEW'S "FRIEND." (Sketches at the Insurance Hearing by T. E. Powers.)

## PLATT ADMITS CASH WAS GIVEN TO "INFLUENCE" LEGISLATION.

Q. In what matters could you properly give an insurance company support in return for its contribution to the State campaign?

A. WELL, I DON'T KNOW. THEY MIGHT COME TO ME FOR HELP.

Q. To see that the Legislature did not enact legislation which they thought hostile to policyholders?

A. THAT IS ABOUT WHAT IT WOULD AMOUNT TO.

Q. How could you control the situation?

A. I COULD NOT CONTROL IT. I MIGHT HAVE SOME INFLUENCE.

Q. Does not the use of these contributions to the election of candidates to office put the candidate more or less under a moral obligation not to attack the interests supporting them?

A. THAT IS WHAT NATURALLY WOULD BE INVOLVED.

Q. Isn't that really what is involved?

A. I SHOULD THINK SO.

(Continued from First Page.)

the Equitable Life as a contribution for local campaigns? A. None whatever.

Q. Or as a contribution to the expenses of any candidates for the Legislature? A. No, sir, I have not received any at all for that purpose.

Q. Then the amounts that you have received for the purpose of State campaigns cover all the amounts you have received from the Equitable Life? A. Yes, and they were general in their character. There was not any specific sum mentioned for any campaign, for or against what was for the State.

Q. But you divided it up, or some committee divided it up, this money that was received, in such a way as you thought proper? A. Yes, sir, they usually made these contributions to me, and I think they did always by a special messenger. He came to my office and delivered me a package of money, and I didn't know and didn't want it was; and I immediately turned it over to the State Committee, or the Chairman or the Secretary or the Treasurer.

Always in Cash.

Q. So these contributions were cash contributions? A. Yes, sir, cash contributions. They were delivered to me in cash, and I delivered them in cash to the State Committee.

Q. And did you ever receive any such contributions directly from any officer of the Equitable? A. No, sir, directly. I don't think I ever did from the Equitable. I am not quite sure about that; but they invariably sent the money over to the State Committee.

Q. How much of the money did you receive? A. I don't know. I would send it up to the State Committee.

Q. They came voluntarily? A. They came voluntarily.

Q. Was that a fixed sum each year or did it vary? A. Well, it was a fixed sum; that is, they did not exceed that, and they didn't reduce it either.

Q. Did you receive contributions for political purposes from the Mutual? A. I don't know. I don't think I did.

Q. How much of the money did you receive? A. I don't know. I would send it up to the State Committee.

Q. How frequently was it? A. I cannot tell. I simply received it, and whatever I received, I took it to the State Committee.

Q. How often did you receive it? A. I don't know. I don't think I did.

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Do you recall that? A. I do not recall that.

Q. Or any fund; I may not have the amount right. A. No; my memory could not tell me whether it was the Equitable campaign or what campaign it was.

Q. You are clear in your mind that you never had any contributions made to you for the purpose of a national campaign? A. Yes, sir; they never were given to me for a national campaign, although I sometimes was talking with gentlemen about it, and I thought it would be a good thing for them to subscribe because of the bearing of the national campaign on a State campaign.

Q. And with whom have you had such conversations? A. I mean connected with insurance companies, of course? A. I think there was as to whom I talked to.

Q. Have you talked to Mr. R. A. McCurdy about that? A. I do not think so.

Talked with McCurdy.

Q. Or Mr. John A. McCurdy? A. I think very likely I may have talked with Mr. John A. McCurdy on that subject, as to the necessity of our campaign, and what we ought to do, but I do not remember when I talked with him.

Q. What other insurance companies did you talk to? A. I don't know. I don't think I did.

Q. How much of the money did you receive? A. I don't know. I would send it up to the State Committee.

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RUSH UP SOME DOUGH OR THERE WILL BE TROUBLE.

CANTANERIOUS FRIEND UP THE RIVER.

Q. That is about what it would amount to? A. Yes, sir, I think so.

Q. How could you control that situation? A. I could not control it.

Q. How could you manage your own campaign? A. I tried to, but that was what was the matter.

Q. You were not elected? A. No, sir.

Q. Did Thomas D. Husted manage your campaign? A. He did not.

Q. Did you ever hear that the Equitable contributed to your campaign that year? A. I never did.

Q. Did you ask for a contribution? A. I did not. I don't know how my card got there.

Q. That is what you meant when you said that you would expect your relations with the State Committee to be of that kind? A. Yes, sir.

Q. The Chairman—that is all, Senator; we are much obliged to you.

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## ASSEMBLYMAN APGAR HAD CARD ON A VOUCHER

Assemblyman James K. Apgar, of Westchester County, was called as a witness in the midst of the testimony of Gage E. Tarbell. He was asked if he knew the late Thomas D. Husted, and then a voucher was handed to him to which was attached his personal card. On the card was written:

"Mr. Hyde says pay him \$1,000. J. W. A."

The voucher, dated Oct. 11, 1937, was signed by Thomas D. Husted. By Mr. Hughes:

Q. Do you remember what that voucher was for? A. That is my personal card.

Q. Does it refresh your recollection? A. No, sir. I recall that I went to see Mr. Alexander, of the Equitable, in that year.

Q. What for? A. I really don't remember. I suppose it was to intercede for a friend. That is the usual business of his Assemblyman.

Only a Candidate.

Q. But you were not in the Assembly that year—in 1937? A. No, sir. But I was a candidate in that year.

Q. Did you manage your own campaign? A. I tried to, but that was what was the matter.

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## WANTS ROOSEVELT OUT IN THE OPEN

Odell Says He Should Ask Halpin to Quit if He "Isn't Satisfied."

"If Mr. Roosevelt wants to bring about the re-organization of the Republican party here, why doesn't he send for County Chairman Halpin, and ask him to step down and out?"

This question was asked by B. B. Odell in reply to one put to him by reporters to-day at the Fifth Avenue Hotel when he gave out a spirited interview on local Republican conditions in general, and Gov. Higgins's visit to Washington yesterday in particular.

"I have no doubt Mr. Halpin would resign if the President thought it in the interest of the organization," said Odell. "But why not see Halpin himself? If he doesn't measure up to the place the President himself should be the one to tell him so. I question, however, the advisability of a hurried re-organization just at the end of a factional fight in the party."

Here Mr. Odell paused and then, in a decidedly sarcastic tone said: "You know there is great confidence in the President's knowledge and insight into things in general and particularly into politics here."

The Chairman was asked if Mr. Halpin had been asked to come to Washington.

"Not that I know of."

Presumably he has been sent for by the President.

"No," was the emphatic answer. "Somebody suggested that Gov. Higgins had also been to see Senator Odell, while in Washington."

"That's Gov. Higgins's privilege," said Odell. "Anybody has the right to call on Senator Platt."

"Well, are you still for Gov. Higgins?"

"Do you think the story that Thomas P. Ryan is interviewing himself in the Republican organization in this county is true?"

"I am not thinking this afternoon."

The State Chairman laughed at the suggestion of Odell for Halpin's place, and said: "William Barlow has been mentioned, too, ventured a reporter."

"Odell, Barlow," said Mr. Odell, snappily. "Am I not?"

What happened to Odell when he got ambitious. He got it in the neck.

The Chairman said he expected to meet a number of local leaders and hold a number of conferences while in town.

CURED OF BRONCHITIS.

Had bronchitis and asthma. Father John's Medicine cured me.—Mrs. Jacob Moreland, 146 Penn St., York, Pa.

CURED OF BRONCHITIS.

I suffered from bronchitis. Father John's Medicine cured me.—Mrs. J. F. Cooney, 11 Scotia St., Boston, Mass.

FATHER JOHN'S MEDICINE

Has a gentle healing effect upon the throat and bronchial tubes. That is why it cures BRONCHITIS.

KALMUS BROS.

BE SURE YOU TRY IT. DIGESTO COFFEE

Real Coffee, Not a Substitute. ASK ANY GROCER FOR A SAMPLE PACKAGE.

J. MORRIS

## IDA TARBELL SAYS SHE PITIES JOHN D.

(Special to The Evening World.)

BUFFALO, N. Y., Nov. 21.—Miss Ida M. Tarbell, whose revelations concerning the growth and methods of the Standard Oil Company have brought her fame, insists that the oil king is more to be pitied than censured.

Miss Tarbell came to Buffalo to deliver an address to a number of students at Maestri Park High School.

Something sensational was expected. Miss Tarbell gave an audience of three thousand a rude shock when she devoted all her time to the great Lincoln, telling how he studied. She did not refer to Rockefeller at all.

After she had finished with the students, Miss Tarbell granted an interview to an Evening World correspondent in which she said:

"In my opinion Mr. Rockefeller is a man to be pitied. He is a man of immense possibilities when interested. He has the imagination to conceive a vast business project and the ability to carry it through. He has definite patience and calmness and small things and carry them to a conclusion or begin again with the possibilities of an enormous proposition and carry out the details of that as well."

"He is vastly frightened, and can look far into the future, but he thinks only of business. He has no love for art or for literature. Such matters do not appeal to him—he doesn't know them. He cannot see any of the things in which his mind being on dollar-making. He sees the money and charities only beyond his knowledge."

Mr. Rogers well. He is franker than the other Standard men—much franker. You know a majority of the men of Wall Street—those who are things—are usually very reticent. Not so with Mr. Rogers. One who talks with Mr. Rogers is not deceived. It is made plain that if one goes into a deal with him he will be done. If Mr. Rogers can do him."

WOMAN IN BLUE" AT OYSTER BAY AGAIN.

OYSTER BAY, Nov. 21.—The mysterious "Woman in Blue" who last summer made repeated attempts to see President Roosevelt during his stay at Sagamore Hill, again visited Oyster Bay to-day, arriving on an afternoon train, and afterward had a conference with the girls in the telephone office.

She said she was going to Sagamore Hill to-day, and when told the President and his family were in Washington, she turned on the long and spirit walk with apparent cheerfulness.

She found she could not hire a vehicle and she had to go to a bakery for luncheon and afterward had a conference with the girls in the telephone office.

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## AUTO CRASH FAILS TO STOP WEDDING

Arthur Opp, Knocked Out This Morning, Will Be Bridgroom To-Night.

A serious automobile accident at Pacific street and Schenckel street, Brooklyn, to-day sent two victims to hospitals and almost killed a third, who, in spite of contusions and bruises, will become a bridegroom to-night at a fashionable wedding in Flatbush.

Arthur Opp, the prospective bridegroom, was thought for a time to have been killed, as he lay in the street senseless from a blow on the head, but when he had been taken to St. Mary's Hospital and his wounds dressed it was found that he was but slightly hurt, and he went to his home at No. 181 Vernon avenue. He will be married to-night at St. Paul's M. E. Church, Flatbush, to Miss Barbara Creighton, of No. 79 Canarsie avenue, one of the most popular society girls of Brooklyn.

Other members of the automobile party were not so fortunate. Charles Carson, of No. 1423 Pacific street, had his leg broken and sustained contusions and internal injuries, and William Rogers, of No. 178 McDougal street, was badly bruised and shocked. Both were taken to St. Mary's Hospital, where they are having their wounds patched up.

Mr. Carson was driving the machine in which was a party of five